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Thursday, November 11, 2010

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## Passengers recount ordeal as US cruise ship limps home



An HH-60H Sea Hawk helicopter from the Black Knights of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 4 embarked aboard the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) delivers pallets of supplies to the Carnival Cruise Lines ship C/V Splendor.

LOS ANGELES, California (AFP) - Passengers on a US cruise ship which broke down in the Pacific recounted tales yesterday of sleeping on deck and queuing for emergency-issue Pop Tarts, as they were towed back home.

Some of the 3,299 mostly American travelers on the "Carnival Splendor" had to wait in line for two hours for food, while coping with a toilet breakdown for several hours after a fire left the vessel stranded Monday.

"The only thing that made it really tough was when the facilities were all broken down and all the bathrooms weren't working, and people were

starting to get uncomfortable," David Zambrano told Colorado TV station 9News.

The 113,000-ton ship, with nearly 4,500 people on board including the 1,167 crew, was expected to dock in San Diego today, three days after the emergency. It is being towed by two ocean-going tugs.

A US Navy aircraft carrier training in the area, the USS Ronald Reagan, diverted Tuesday to supply the stricken vessel with emergency food supplies after it broke down off Mexico's Pacific coast.

Helicopters ferried 4,500 pounds of groceries to the stricken ship -- from cases of bottled drinking water to bread

rolls and canned Spam -- to keep passengers from going hungry while the luxury liner was without power.

The engine failure left the passengers with no air conditioning or hot food, as the vessel only had auxiliary power, while toilet facilities were also disrupted for much of the first day of the emergency.

Yesterday the cruise ship company said the ship was still only on backup power.

Passengers will get a full refund, their travel expenses paid and will receive another cruise equal to the amount paid for their troubled trip, the company said.

## Spoils of Madoff's lavish life on NY auction lock

A 10.54 carats diamond on platinum ring, which belonged to disgraced financier Bernie Madoff, is displayed during a press preview of items from Madoff to be auctioned, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, yesterday.

Hundreds of items once belonging to Madoff will be auctioned off on November 13, 2010, running the gamut from a massive emerald-cut diamond to his black bedroom slippers, US officials said.

Proceeds from the auction will compensate the victims of his multibillion USD Ponzi scheme.

(AFP PHOTO)



## British police: Yemen bomb was set to explode over US

LONDON, England (AFP) - A parcel bomb sent from Yemen and removed from a cargo plane at a British airport last month was timed to explode over the eastern seaboard of the United States, Scotland Yard said yesterday.

The plane arrived at East Midlands Airport in central England from Cologne in Germany in the early hours of October 29 and the package hidden in a printer ink cartridge was removed from the aircraft.

The aircraft operated by parcel delivery company UPS took off just over two hours later, heading for Chicago.

"Forensic examination has indicated that if the device had activated it would have been at 10:30hrs BST (0930 GMT) on Friday, 29 October 2010" the Metropolitan Police said in a statement.

Police added that the device was "disrupted" at East Midlands Airport by explosive officers during the initial examination when they removed the cartridge from a printer some three hours before the bomb was timed to go off.

The Yemen branch of Al-Qaeda last week claimed responsibility for the plot, according to the monitoring website SITE.



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## MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

## Shooting threat locks down schools in south Florida

MIAMI (AFP) - Over 300 schools in Florida's second most-populous county were put on lockdown Wednesday after a woman told a radio station her husband was going to "start shooting at schools."

By the afternoon, the lockdown was lifted but all after-school activities were suspended for the day.

Students had been kept at all of Broward County's schools for the day and police in the Fort Lauderdale suburb of Pembroke Pines were investigating the case, said an agent with the county sheriff's department.

The county is located just north of Miami.

Shortly after 8:30 am (1330 GMT), an email was also sent to the radio station warning that "something big was going to happen at gov-

ernment buildings in Broward County, maybe at a post office or a school."

Captain Dan Rakofsky of the Pembroke Pines Police Department said it was deemed a "credible threat" and as a precaution, Deputy City Attorney Julie Klahr ordered the lockdown of 231 traditional schools and 69 charter schools.

"We are trying to trace the

origin of the phone call and the email but we have yet been unsuccessful," Rakofsky said.

"We are working with the FBI and numerous state agencies to investigate some names we believe may be associated with this but because they are very common names we are unsure if they are pseudonyms or if they are actual people."

## US nears decision on Khalid Sheikh Mohammed trial

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States is nearing a decision on how and where to try Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and four other alleged plotters of the September 11 attacks, Attorney General Eric Holder said Wednesday.

Plans by President Barack Obama's administration to prosecute the self-professed mastermind of the attacks and his co-defendants in a federal New York court just steps from their alleged crime were put on ice amid outcry

from local and national politicians who wanted them tried in a military court.

"The process is an ongoing one. We are working to make a determination about the placement of that trial," Holder told reporters. "We have been working on it and I think we are close to a decision."

Critics -- including both Republicans and some of Obama's fellow Democrats - cited security and cost concerns, and said the suspects should not be granted US legal rights.

## US against 'unilateral' Palestinian appeal to UN



**Egyptian Foreign Minister Aboul Gheit (L) holds a news briefing with U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton at the State Department yesterday. Gheit is in Washington attempting to restart direct talks between Israel and the Palestinians, which broke down last month when a 10-month partial Israeli freeze on settlement building in the West Bank expired. (AFP PHOTO)**

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on Wednesday warned against any "unilateral steps" taken in the Israel-Palestinian dialogue, after Palestinians appealed to the UN over Jewish settlement building.

"Negotiations between the parties is the only means by which all of the outstanding claims arising out of the con-

flict can be resolved," Clinton told reporters when asked about Palestinian plans to request the UN Security Council to address the issue of settlements which has deadlocked peace talks.

"We do not support unilateral steps by either party that could prejudice the outcome of such negotiations," the top US diplomat said.



**This undated image released by Cuban official website "cubadebate.cu" yesterday, shows Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez (L) and Cuban former president Fidel Castro during a meeting. Chavez is in Cuba in a work visit. (AFP PHOTO)**

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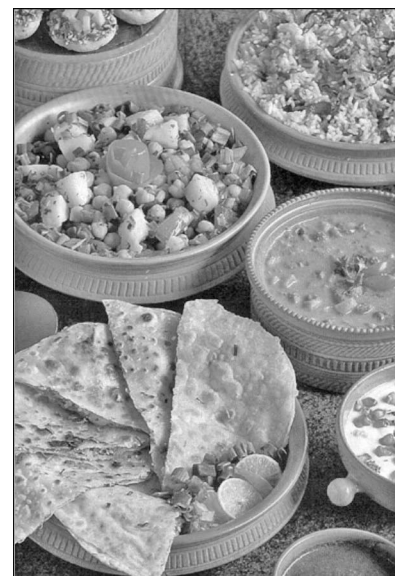
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## Rapper acquitted for threatening Wilder



**Geert Wilders**

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands - The appeal court in The Hague yesterday acquitted a rapper of threatening Party for Freedom (PVV) leader Geert Wilders because it did not consider the text of his song constituted an offence.

The rapper, who calls himself Mosheb, was prosecuted for the track 'Who is next?'. He sings: Pim Fotuyn talked about Muslims, was shot. Theo van Gogh, talked about Muslims, was shot. Who is next...? (...) Am planning to make an attack on Geert Wilders. And that in WORDS. I find you a creep. You will be strangled. (...) Everyone who talks about Muslims gets killed."

In the number, the rapper

constantly alternates threats with mitigating words. "Geert you would be better to jump off the roof, or would you rather have bullets in your body? I am no terrorist, am an innocent rapper. This is a warning!! Do you want to stay alive? Then you must take back all your statements (...) Listen Geert, this is no joke, last night I dreamed that I had cut off your head."

Wilders launched proceedings against the song in 2007, after he had heard and seen the clip on the Internet. A lower court convicted Mosheb, but the appeal court arrived at acquittal yesterday.

According to the appeal court, the text is not in itself a punishable offence. The track is punishable however in the way it was to be seen on Internet site YouTube. There, gunshots were also heard.

These shots cannot however be heard on the rapper's original CD version. The appeal court concludes that it cannot be established whether the shots were added by the rapper or by someone else.

## Minister: FARC down to 7,000 members

BOGOTA, Colombia -- Colombia's largest guerrilla group the FARC is down to 7,000 fighters, the country's defense minister said on yesterday.

According to Caracol Radio, the figure is based on analysis of content from the computers of "Mono Jojoy," the FARC's military commander who was killed in a bombing raid in September.

The minister warned the guerrillas that those who still are part of the group will be either captured or killed.

"None of these benadits are untouchable, they are vulnerable. I am certain that those that

remain to fall will fall," Rivera was quoted as saying.

Government figures released in July showed the FARC went from 20,000 fighters in 2002 to 8,000 earlier this year.

Meanwhile, Colombia's defense minister and armed forces commander traveled to Lima on Tuesday to meet with their Peruvian counterparts and hand over information regarding alleged FARC presence in Peruvian territory.

The visit follows allegations by Peru's armed forces commander that FARC guerrillas use areas over the Peruvian border as a place to rest from the Colombian military.

## Berenson hopes to avoid return to Peruvian prison

LIMA, Peru -- Lori Berenson, a U.S. citizen who served 15 years in prison for aiding Marxist insurgents in Peru, says she no longer condones violence and worries that political forces will force her to return to prison again.

In a rare interview on Tuesday, a day after she left prison on parole for a second time, Berenson said that adjusting to life on the outside has been tough.

"It's much harder than I thought, harder for many reasons. I think mostly because of the situation behind the case;

## Cuba lifts ban on real estate transactions

HAVANA, Cuba -- The Cuban authorities have lifted the ban on real estate transactions, a ban that's been in force since 1959.

The Caribbean state government annulled the moratorium on selling and/or buying real estate in the hope that it will lessen the housing shortages in the country.

Earlier the State Council Chairman Raul Castro signed a decree allowing Cubans to set up private businesses and employing people for the first time in 50 years.

there was a lot of politics involved," she said.

Her case has generated a storm of controversy in Peru, where people are still traumatized by memories of a long civil war that killed 69,000 people.

Berenson, who turns 41 this week, was convicted of collaborating with the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement

(MRTA). The MRTA was active in the 1980s and 1990s when a larger insurgency, the Maoist Shining Path, also tried to topple the state.

Berenson was never convicted of participating in violent acts, but said she was sent to jail essentially for renting a house where MRTA members stayed.

## Woman in burka banned from theatre despite free ticket promo

THE HAGUE, The Netherlands -- A woman wearing a burka has been banned from a performance by Moroccan comic Anuar in Boekelo, even though the theatre had promoted the event as free to burka-wearers, it was reported.

Two weeks ago the theatre

said the first 10 burka-wearers could see the show for free, but cancelled the idea following protests from Anuar.

But three women turned up in the all-covering garment. Two took them off on request but the third refused and was not allowed in.



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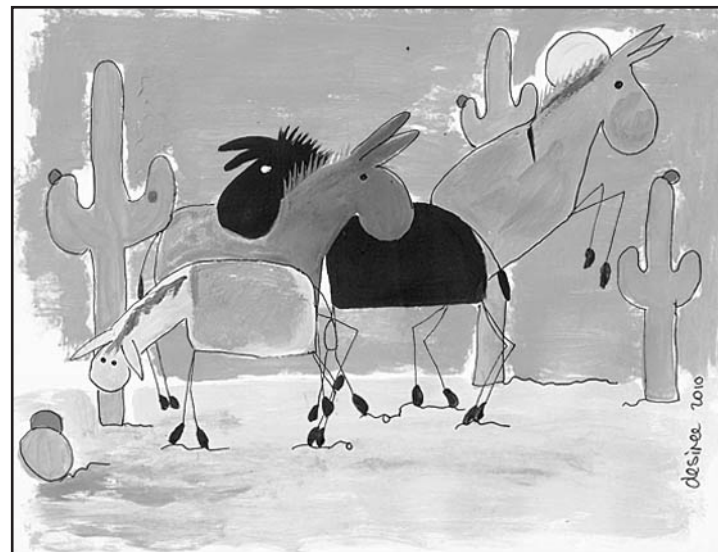
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## Mystery missile vapor trail stumps Pentagon

WASHINGTON (AFP) – The US military said it has detected no launch of a foreign military missile off the coast of California and offered assurances that whatever happened there posed no threat to the United States.

KCBS television caught on camera what appeared to be a missile vapor trail as it arced into the evening sky west of Los Angeles, sparking reports of a possible missile launch.

"At this time, we can confirm that there is no threat to our nation and from all indications this was not a launch by a foreign military," the US Northern Command and the North American Aerospace Defense (NORAD) Command said in a statement.

The Pentagon, however, said it had no explanation for the sighting and was trying to get to the bottom of it.

"While there is nothing at this time that leads the Department of Defense (DoD) to believe this is a missile launch, the department and other US government agencies with expertise in aviation and space continue to look into the condensation trail (CONTRAIL) seen and reported off the coast of southern California on Monday evening," Pentagon spokesman David Lapan said in a statement.



File picture shows contrails from the space shuttle following a launch in April

"All DoD entities with rocket and missile programs reported no launches, scheduled or inadvertent, during the time period in the area of the reported contrail," he added.

Lapan said Federal Aviation Administration "radar replays" from a large area west of Los Angeles "did not reveal any fast-moving, unidentified targets," adding that the FAA also did not receive reports of any unusual sightings from pilots in the area.

ContrailScience.com, a website that debunks conspiracy theories linked to contrails, suggested the sighting was an optical illusion.

It said an approaching aircraft can leave a horizontal

vapor trail that looks like a missile shooting vertically from the ground or sea.

What creates the illusion that it is rising from the ground is that the end of the plume is hidden by the curvature of the earth.

Ordinarily, a missile test would involve closure of air space and notifications to mariners of when to stay clear of the area, but none were known to have been made in this case, Lapan said earlier.

He said it was "implausible" that a military exercise would have been conducted so near Los Angeles' busy international airport.

"That's why at this point the operative term is, unexplained," Lapan added.

## New York City goes pumpkin



NEW YORK CITY -- Photo above shows Chef Francois Payard of Francois Payard Bakery cutting up a 1,426 pound pumpkin that was donated to City Harvest to be cut up by chefs to prepare original pumpkin recipes in New York. City Harvest exists to end hunger in communities throughout New York City, through food rescue and distribution and education. Photo below shows the seeds of the pumpkin. (AFP)







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## EU unveils trillion-euro single energy market

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AFP) — The European Union's energy chief yesterday unveiled an ambitious 10-year trillion-euro energy investment plan for a single EU energy network to cut fossil fuel imports and fight climate change.

"There is no single energy market," Energy Commissioner Guenther Oettinger told a news conference. "We need to render energy European."

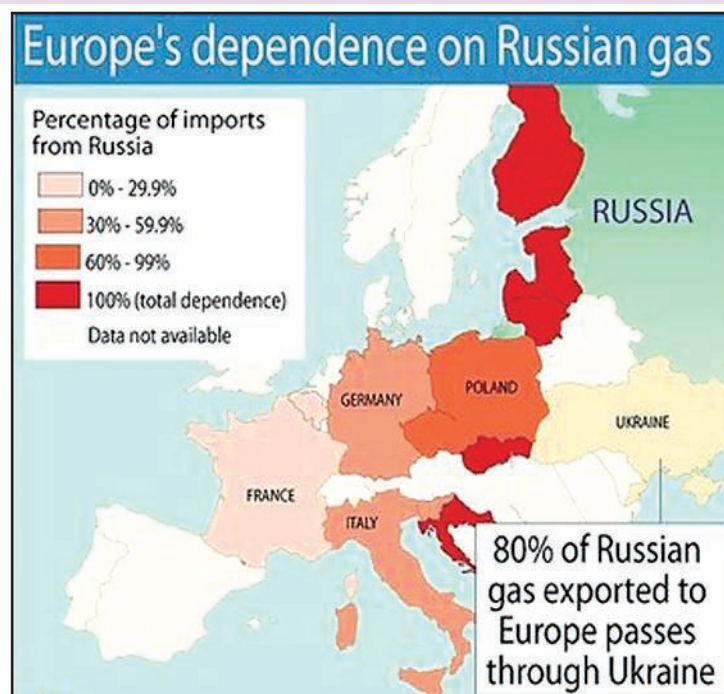
Europe's current system was "like 19th century dukedoms rather than a modern open Europe," he said.

His proposals, geared to face up to what he called "one of Europe's greatest tests," will be eyed by European Union leaders at the bloc's first ever energy summit February 4, 2011.

While energy had over-ridden labour in terms of costs and fossil fuel imports were on the rise, Europe's energy sector was not competitive, with massive investments needed in new technologies and infrastructures.

"Europe cannot lose," he said, calling for one trillion euros (1.38 trillion dollars) of investment to improve efficiency and reduce pollution.

Regarding efforts to combat



climate change, the commissioner said the bloc could realistically achieve its 2020 goals of slicing carbon emissions by 20 percent and increasing the use of renewable energies such as wind and solar power by 20 percent.

But without greater investments and a single will the EU would be unable to meet its commitment to increase energy efficiency, also by 20 percent, by 2020, he said.

"Without accelerating investment in energy efficiency we will be closer to nine percent than 20 percent in 2020," he said.

The global economic crisis had hammered investment in new technologies while there were no constraints placed on national plans to improve energy efficiency.

Oettinger therefore called for public sector spending on energy to be verifiable -- the

public sector accounts for 16 percent of purchases across the EU -- and for integration of national grids of gas, electricity and solar systems as far south as the Maghreb and Turkey, or wind energy in the north.

Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament welcomed the new EU energy strategy but said it had failed to set binding targets on states for energy savings.

"Achieving the 20-percent energy efficiency target could save up to 78 billion euros a year by 2020, create a million new jobs, improve security of supply and improve economic competitiveness," said the vice-president of the group Marita Ulvskog.

Oettinger said the building of a single energy sector would also strengthen Europe's voice on the international scene.

The union's internal energy market was the world's biggest, he said, "bigger than China, bigger than the US".

"I will be pleading for a common foreign energy policy," he added.

Oettinger said oil would continue to be needed in industry as well as in air and heavy road transport over the coming decades but that urban trans-

port and private vehicles must shift to hybrids, hydrogen and electricity.

Investment incentives and financial instruments would be proposed by the middle of next year to help home-owners and the public sector pay for renovations and energy saving measures, the commission said.



The commission proposed major projects to strengthen Europe's leadership in energy technology and innovation through new technologies, electricity storage, research on second-generation biofuels, and energy savings in urban areas.



## Sci-Tech

## Gonad greatness: Insect has record-breaking testicles



PARIS (AFP) - A species of cricket has the largest testes in relation to its body weight of any known creature in the world, stunned scientists reported on Wednesday.

The tuberous bushcricket (*Platycleis affinis*) has testes that amount to 13.8 percent of its body mass -- the rough equivalent of a man hauling around tyre-sized testicles weighing 10 kilos (22 pounds).

"We couldn't believe the size of these organs. They seemed to fill the entire ab-

domen," said Karim Vahed, a behavioural ecologist at Britain's University of Derby.

The tuberous bushcricket beat all rivals in a testicular comparison of 21 species of bushcrickets, also known in North America as katydids.

But for all its gonad grandstanding, the insect did not produce more sperm per ejaculate than others, and this offers an intriguing challenge to evolutionary theory.

Testes tend to be larger in species where females are more promiscuous. The as-

sumption behind this is that the male which produces the most sperm has an advantage over his rivals in love.

But the tuberous bushcricket may cause this theory to be revisited, say the authors.

Its large reserves of sperm enable it to ejaculate, in tiny amounts, with a bigger number of females, thus boosting its chances of reproductive success.

"Our study shows that we have to rethink this assumption. It looks as though the testes may be that big simply to allow males to mate repeatedly without their sperm reserves being exhausted."

Said Vahed: "Extra large testes in bushcrickets allow males to transfer relatively small ejaculates to a greater number of females. Males don't put all their eggs -- or rather sperm -- in one basket."

## BeLight updates Disc Cover CD/DVD label design app



Tired of using a Sharpie to label all of your CD and DVD-Rs? Ukrainian company BeLight Software can help you with its Disc Cover CD/DVD label designing software. Recently updated, Disc Cover Version 3 includes 140 new templates, 30 artistic collages, support for multi-page booklets, a completely redesigned Assistant, and more.

Disc Cover is designed to be your one-stop application

for designing and printing disc labels, multipage booklets, cover art and jewel case inserts. The program comes with over 250 template sets complete with disc labels, covers, jewel case inserts, multiple page booklets, and spines that you can easily customize. You can also start your design from scratch, using the app's vast array of clipart images, photo collage templates, backgrounds, and fonts.

Disc Cover also integrates

with numerous Apple apps—it can pull track info and lyrics from your iTunes library and photos from iPhoto and Aperture, for instance—and features a slick, user-friendly interface to help get you started quickly.

Disc Cover comes in two flavors: the \$35 Standard edition, which includes 1000 clipart images and no additional fonts, and the \$45 Retail version, which includes 40,000 clipart images and 100 additional fonts. Existing Disc Cover users can upgrade for \$20.

## Adobe releases Audition for Mac Beta



Look out, Mac pro-audio apps; there's a new contestant in town—and it's powered by none other than Adobe.

The company has released a public beta of Audition for Mac, its professional-level audio program for recording, mixing, editing, and mastering.

Audition for Mac, which was announced in June, provides an audio-editing envi-

ronment for fine-tuning single files or creating multi-track mixes. It also features audio restoration tools, multi-channel support for 5.1 surround sound, and various audio effects including a de-hummer, de-esser, and volume leveler.

Unlike many digital audio workstations (DAWs)—like Logic—that emphasize audio recording, Audition is aimed at the broadcast and audio post-production market, which should help set it apart from the competition.

## Human, Neanderthal brains only differ after birth: study

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The brains of Neanderthals and humans were similar at birth but developed differently in the first year of life, according to a German study published Monday in the United States.

Brains of newborn human babies and Neanderthals, who became extinct about 28,000 years ago, were about the same size and appear almost identical at first, said the research which appeared in the journal *Current Biology*.

But after birth and particularly during the first year of life the differences in development are stark, said lead

author Philipp Gunz of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Germany.

"There was a huge difference in the way they grew their brain compared to modern humans in the first one-and-a-half and two years," Gunz told AFP.

To compare the two brains, scientists assembled a virtual Neanderthal brain by scanning skull fragments and comparing the computer models at different stages of growth to the human baby brain.

The human brain began much more activity in neural circuitry in the first year of

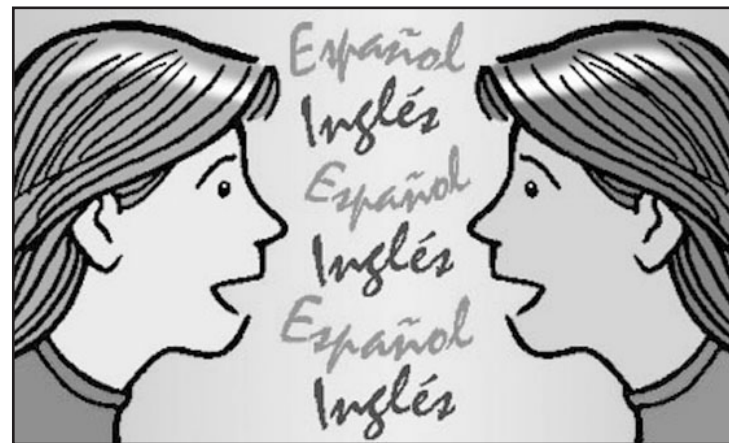
life, which may have helped early homo sapiens survive in the process of natural selection, the study said.

"The interesting thing is within modern humans, the size of the brain correlates only very weakly with any measure of intelligence," he said. "It's more the internal structure of the brain that is important."

"And the Neanderthal, they were smart because they had a huge brain, but we think that internal structures must have been different because they grew differently, so we don't think the Neanderthal saw the world as we do."

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## Bilingualism delays onset of Alzheimer's



OTTAWA (AFP) - Speaking two languages can help delay the onset of Alzheimer's symptoms by as long as five years, Canadian scientists said Tuesday.

The Baycrest's Rotman Research Institute researchers examined clinical records of 211 patients diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and found that those who spoke two or more languages consistently over many years experienced a delay in the onset of their symptoms by as long as five years.

The study was published in the current issue of *Neurology*.

"We are not claiming that bilingualism in any way prevents Alzheimer's or other dementias, but it may contribute to cognitive reserve in the brain which appears to

delay the onset of Alzheimer's symptoms for quite some time," said lead investigator Fergus Craik.

The subjects' brains still showed deterioration from Alzheimer's regardless of language skills, however bilingualism appeared to have delayed symptoms such as memory loss, confusion, and difficulties with problem-solving and planning.

There are currently no drug treatments that can delay the symptoms of Alzheimer's, the researchers noted.

The study replicated findings from a 2007 study led by Ellen Bialystok of York University that found bilingual dementia patients experienced a delayed onset of their symptoms compared to monolingual patients.



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## Health & Living

### Few young women getting cervical cancer vaccine

Few teenage girls and young women are getting the human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV), and many of those who start the regimen fail to take all three doses, new research reveals.

Although studies have shown that the HPV vaccine is safe and effective against several strains of the sexually transmitted virus, just one-third of teens and young women who start the three-dose series actually finish, and almost three-quarters don't start it at all, according to research being presented this week at the American Association of Cancer Research annual meeting in Philadelphia.

"Women who are eligible for this vaccine and could potentially benefit aren't getting it at rates to maximally prevent cervical cancer," said study author J. Kathleen Tracy, an assistant professor of epidemiology and public health at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore.

"This highlights the need



for public health promotions and practice patterns to encourage vaccine uptake or at least discussion of the pros and cons," Tracy said.

Tracy has initiated a study to see if text messages will prompt women aged 18 to 26 to keep their follow-up appointments for subsequent doses of the vaccine.

According to background information in the abstract, about 30 percent of sexually active 14- to 19-year-olds are

infected with HPV at any one time. Over time, persistent infection can lead to cervical cancer.

Two HPV vaccines are marketed in the United States. Gardasil, approved in 2006 for girls aged 9 and up, protects against four types of HPV, two of which cause about 70 percent of cervical cancers worldwide.

Cervarix, which covers the two strains of the virus responsible for most cases of cervical cancer, was approved in 2009.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that 11- and 12-year-old girls be targeted for the vaccine as most in this age group are not yet having sex and would therefore not have been exposed to HPV yet.

A 2008 survey, conducted before Cervarix was approved, found that only about half of American mothers intended to have daughters younger than 13 vaccinated against human papillomavirus (HPV), despite government guidelines suggesting the opposite.

## 5 Beauty uses for aloe vera

1. As a skin brightener: Rub aloe vera on your face to decrease pigmentation and dark spots.

2. Have red blotches after plucking your brows? Rub some aloe vera on the discolored area and watch redness disappear.

3. Aloe is a surprisingly good moisturizer and is effective in combating wrinkles because the skin absorbs it

quickly – rub some on your neck and see for yourself.

4. Soothe a sunburn

5. Nourish your skin: Aloe vera is extremely nutrient-rich: it has 18 amino acids, B vitamins 1, 2, and 6, vitamin C, niacinamide, choline and the minerals calcium, iron, lecithin, magnesium, manganese, potassium, sodium and zinc.

## TIP: Shopping for Shoes



Wearing shoes that don't fit can contribute to a long list of foot problems.

*The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons suggests how to choose the right footwear and keep your feet happy:*

\* Always measure both feet each time you go shoe shopping.

\* Try on shoes late in the day, when the feet tend to be a bit larger.

\* Women should opt for heels that are no higher than 2 1/4 inches.

\* Make sure the shoes fit properly in the heels and the toes, with 1/2 inch of space between the shoe and your longest toe.

\* Try on both shoes to be sure that they fit comfortably on both feet. Opt for the size that is most comfortable on your largest foot.

\* Walk around the store with both shoes on to make sure the fit is comfortable. Don't count on "breaking them in."



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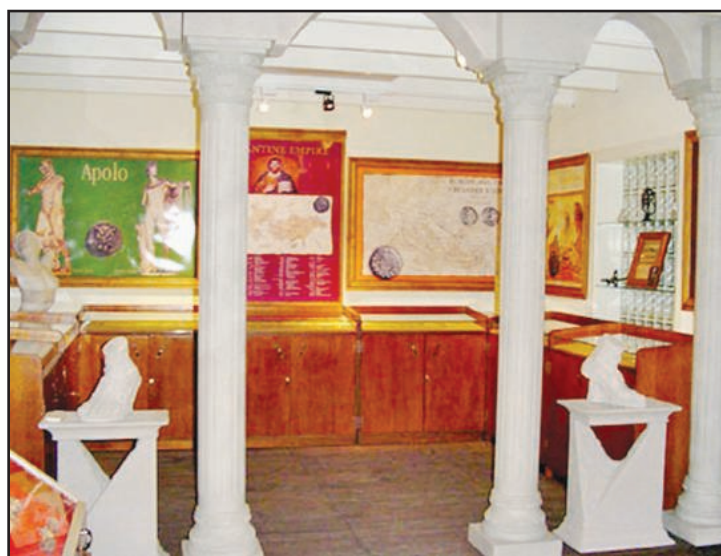
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## Numismatic Museum



Fifty years ago, when the late Mario Odor was gardening in his yard, he came upon his first coin dating back to the late 18th century and thus began a collection that grown to more than 33,000 different coins and currencies dating back as far as 400 BC. Housed in an authentic cunucu house that was moved from the main street, the Numismatic Museum boasts showcases filled with coins primitive and strange, proof, counter-stamped, center-holed, scalloped, square, wooden, and over-struck, as well as errors, commemoratives, tokens and food coupons.

Peruse the means of ex-

change of the Roman Empire, Chinese dynasties, India and feudal European countries as well as money unique in shape and material, including cardboard, wood, leather, porcelain, baked clay, ivory, plastic or linen. Visitors can piece together the turbulent history of Aruba and the Caribbean through well-organized collections with informative commentaries.

The museum is situated next to the central bus station in Oranjestad and is open from Monday through Friday, 9 am – 4 pm, Saturday 8 am – 12 noon. Tel 582-8831. For more information, contact [info@museumaruba.org](mailto:info@museumaruba.org) or visit [www.museumaruba.org](http://www.museumaruba.org)



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## Popular Pizza Bob's is perfect for casual dining



### A popular hangout with Eagle Beach temporary residents

Everyone has those nights when they want an easy, casual meal, and among denizens of the Eagle Beach area, their favorite place for fun food and friendly surroundings is Pizza Bob's, right next to the Bucuti Beach resort parking lot.

Maitre D' Alex adores welcoming his abundant repeat clientele, being five minutes walk from most of Aruba's timeshares has made the place a prime eatery among families with healthy appetites. Their pizza is modeled on the classic thin crust typical of Chicago's Southside, and the secret recipe of a famous pizzeria since 1957, which we dare not name as we might get whacked!

While checking out the locale, Alex introduced us to Sharla and Caroline from Sweden, frequent visitors to Aruba who can't imagine a vacation without several dinner stops at Pizza Bob's. This was the general consensus of all the guests who we spoke with during our time there; all make it a multiple meal choice during their vacation. "I have one couple from Germany who eat here every night of their vacation," confessed Alex, "they are like family to us!"

Aside from the famous pizzas, the menu features very tasty barbecue, a personal favorite of Caroline, lasagna, Fresh Vegetable Linguini and huge salads that can be shared by two, plus a personal favorite for dessert, "Death by

Chocolate." They do sport an air-conditioned dining room,



which is popular at lunch time to escape the tropical mid-day sun, but nighttime is the right

time to enjoy their outdoor terrace and great music from noted island singer Tommy every Wednesday and Saturday night, which converts the eatery into a congenial hangout until closing time.

If you love your pizza and island ambiance, Pizza Bob's is the perfect place for a fun night. Open for lunch and dinner every day from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., and they deliver to all the resorts in the Eagle Beach area. Call 588 9040 ext. 790 for delivery or to pre-order. They also feature a daily happy hour from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. when you can enjoy a large size pizza for the price of a medium and drinks are 2-for-1; what a deal!



**Swedish sisters Sharla and Carolina are huge fans of Pizza Bob's**



# Take time to get acquainted with



There is a particularly lovely beach on Aruba with a gorgeous vista right near the airport, known always as Surfside; for some time now the building adjacent to it has gone through a string of owners seeking an appropriate identity for this special place, and it looks like it has finally found it with the opening of the Nikky Beach Club Aruba.

Our investigative team from THE MORNING NEWS went down to have a look at this latest venture, and we found just the kind of authentically tranquil, Caribbean ambiance vacationers seek when visiting Aruba. New owner Hans and his GM Lub have completely renovated and redesigned the venue to fully showcase this charming location while pro-

viding a very reasonably priced menu and bar.

November is the month to get acquainted with Nikky Beach as they are offering an introductory dinner special of only \$15 for a three-course meal or a different Entrée de Jour each day of the week for only \$10. This is available from 5:00 to 9:30 p.m., so you can finish up an afternoon spent on the beach, catch a meal after a dive with the adjacent SCUBA shop, or savor your supper along with one of the most spectacular locations to watch our amazing Aruban sunsets.

Jan and Lub have dubbed Sunday's at Nikky Beach "Rehab Day," when they provide a particularly pleasant ambiance with popular local and international DJ's from noon on and \$3 Mimosas all day long. During the tradi-

tional Happy Hour time slot, they feature live music with top local groups specializing in the soft sound of the islands.

Some extremely interesting items on the menu captured our interest along with very moderate prices; aside from the November special you can expect an a la carte tab that will add to your enjoyment. Their chef offers an extensive fusion selection that reveals expertise in several notable cuisines; a nice variety that will please everyone's mood. For lunch and snacking you find a varied choice of classic salads, favorite local treats, pastas and gourmet sandwiches. Kitchen is open from 10:00 am. to 10:00 p.m. serving breakfast, lunch and dinner.

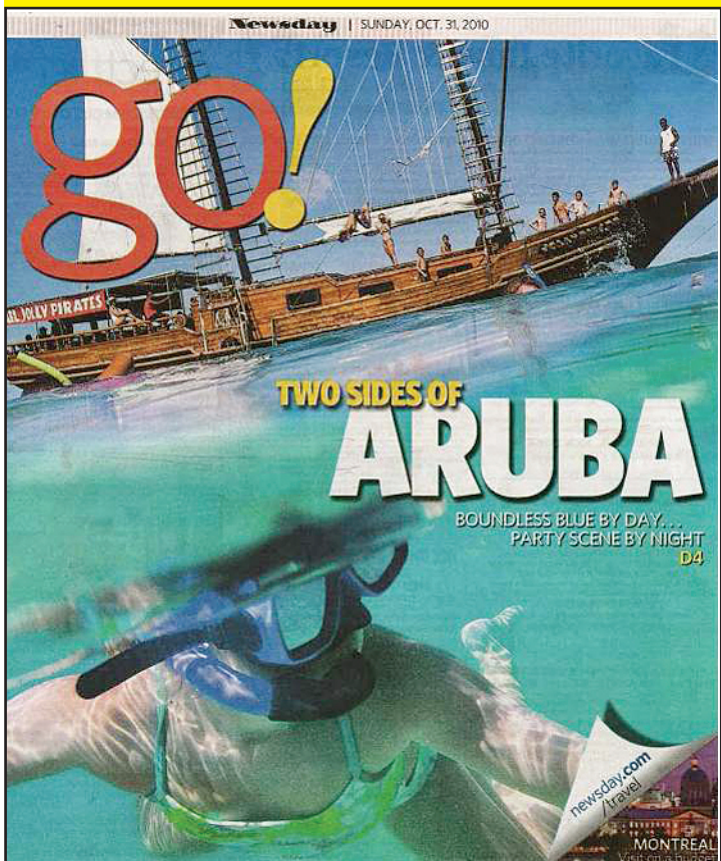
One last interesting tidbit: Lub explained they offer a customized Departure Day Pack-

age that allows vacationer to stow their luggage, enjoy all their amenities, choose a meal, drinks or both and they will personally guarantee getting you to the airport in plenty of time for the flight. Changing rooms and showers let you swim and beach it until departure time and you can linger without rushing, as the airport is only 2 minutes away; no worries about fighting traffic or delays. "Why should you end your stay on a hurried and harried note?" asks Lub. "You can join us for the day and keep that relaxed island ambiance up to the last minute; it doesn't have to end at check out." The package requires reservations, which can be made by calling 582-0153 or contact them through their website: [www.nickybeacharuba.com](http://www.nickybeacharuba.com).

by Rosalie Klein



## U.S. Newspaper "Newsday" with coverage on Aruba



Oranjestra, Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) would like to participate that they had received an article from their P.R. office in the States which had recently appeared in the newspaper "Newsday".

This paper has a circulation of more than 3 million people, and has given Aruba a coverage of 3 pages. A freelance reporter who just had a wonderful vacation on the island, on his return contacted our ATA P.R. office in the states, who of course decided to give him more info & pictures of Aruba, so that he was able to write this article mentioned in "Newsday".

This article reported a little bit about Aruba's history, our "dushi" papiamentu and the great variety we have in top quality restaurants, also of course our beautiful beaches, casino's, watersports, great golf courses, shopping and not to mention our lovely cordial



people which makes Aruba a highly attractive Island to visit.

ATA is pretty content with this coverage that has been

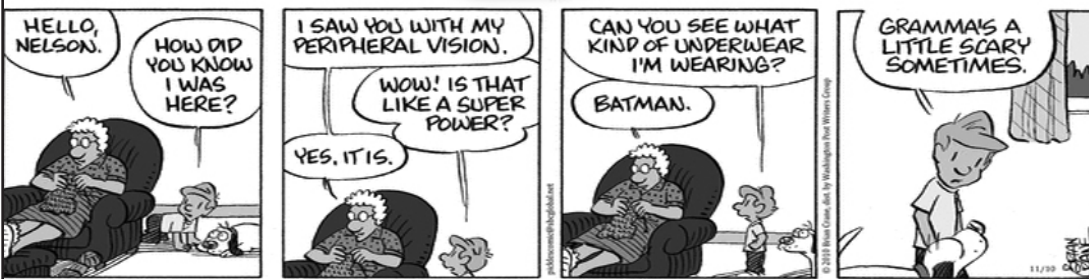
written with such enthusiasm towards Aruba.

On these pictures we can take a peak of what it looked like



## COMICS

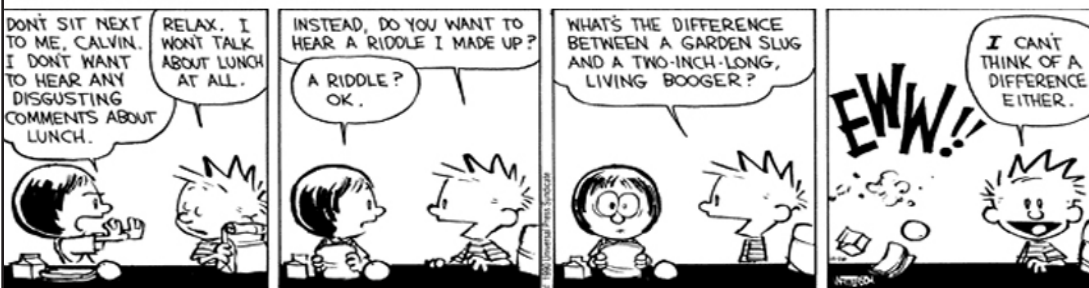
## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



## CROSSWORD



## CROSSWORD

## ACROSS

1. Marian, for one
5. Strikes with an ax
9. New Testament book
13. He loves, to Cato
17. Peak
18. Paddy's land
19. Colt's mom
20. Whine
21. Welk's offering
24. Continent
25. Muslim rulers
26. Toward the rising sun
27. Implied
29. Singer Garfunkel
30. Party cheese
31. Last mo.
32. Bias
35. Intuit
36. \_\_\_\_\_ majesty
39. Sizzling
42. Rabbit \_\_\_\_\_ (antenna)
43. Wilma's husband
44. Sail the \_\_\_\_\_ seas
45. Fuss
46. Actress Le Gallienne
47. Bench
48. Braid
49. Flutter
50. Describe
52. Soggy
53. Mah-jongg pieces
54. Children's party game
58. Titled
61. Wigwam
62. Go to bed
66. Ratite birds
67. What golfers drive
68. Unruly kid
70. Use oars
71. Tabasco two
72. Southern beauty
73. Snow and chick
74. Own
75. Schuss
76. Performers Bolger and Milland
77. Accomplishment
78. More stable
79. Auditor's initials
81. Amphibian
82. Mont Blanc, e.g.
83. Meager
85. Work for
86. Folded gracefully
89. Make headway
90. MTV offering
94. Johnson of "Laugh-In"
95. 1975 Wimbledon winner
96. Domesticated
97. Novelist Ferber

## DOWN

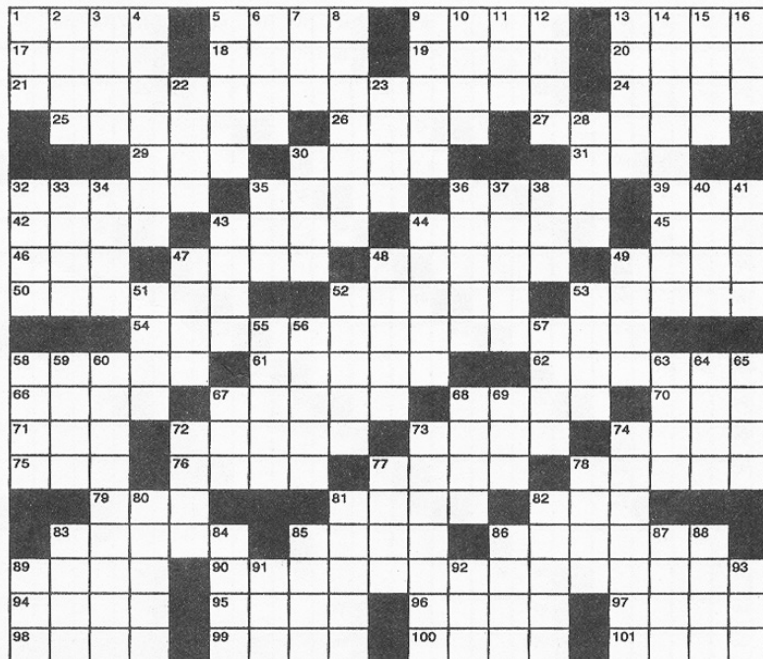
98. Inlets
99. Laborer
100. Luge
101. Some whiskeys
1. Singer Davis
2. Throb painfully
3. Muslim leader
4. Debases
5. "Clara's \_\_\_\_\_" (Goldberg film)
6. Units of work
7. Be victorious
8. Laughed scornfully
9. Entertain
10. Throw
11. Prefix for angle or cycle
12. Religious denomination
13. Swiftly
14. Certain kind of theater
15. Touched down
16. Oolong, e.g.
22. Cheeky
23. Letters
28. Middle Eastern gulf
30. Red vegetable

32. Oracle
33. Cleanse
34. Kazakh sea
35. \_\_\_\_\_ Diavolo
36. Pet's rope
37. Peron on Broadway
38. Collection
40. Garfield's pal
41. Tykes
43. Lawyers' charges
44. Bread serving
47. Nailhead
48. North and South
49. Stallone movie
51. Iowa town
52. Syrup source
53. Allowance for waste
55. Boot-shaped country
56. Jail divisions
57. Gershwin and Aldridge
58. Rorem and Buntline
59. Berserk
60. Nickname for Nashville
63. Iraq's neighbor

64. Wander
65. Water vessel
67. Actress Arthur
68. Rosary part
69. Hair pad
72. Grain husk
73. Charlie Brown's gang
74. More elated
77. Mold
78. Croat or Czech
80. Window units
81. In use, as a chair
82. Bent
83. Poet Teasdale
84. Snare
85. Resound
86. Silver coin
87. Vortex
88. Sand hill, in England
89. Yak
91. Sugar suffix
92. "My Gal \_\_\_\_\_"
93. 1948 assoc.

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 Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

CAS MARIE  
 Alzheimer's Day  
 Care Center  
 Tel: 5696910

Important  
 Telephone  
 Numbers

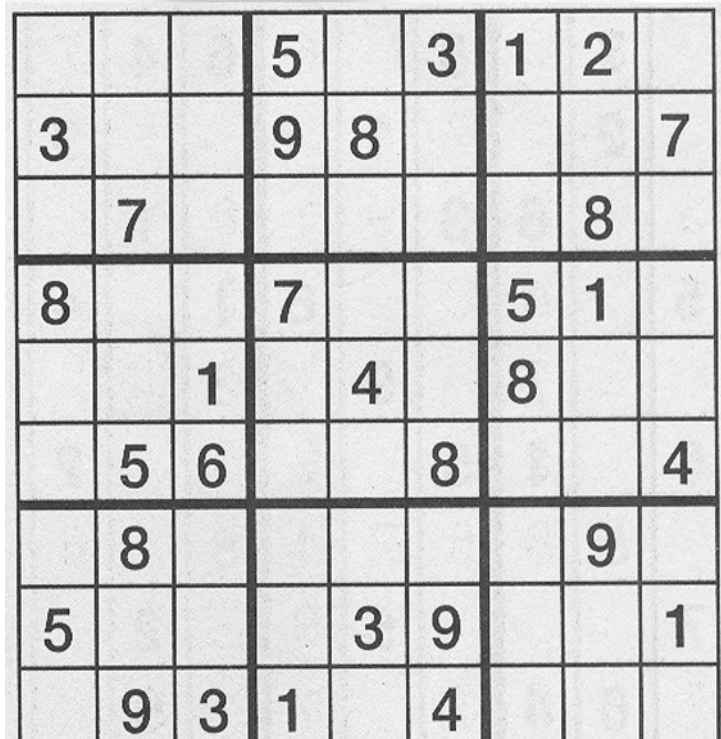
HOSPITAL  
 Horacio Oduber Hospital  
 Tel. 587-4300

EMERGENCY  
 Telephone 911  
 POLICE HDQS  
 Telephone 100

TAXI  
 C.V. TAS  
 587-1998, 587-5900  
 In Oranjestad:  
 Tel. 582-2116, 582-1604  
 582-5447  
 In San Nicolas  
 Tel. 584-5160, 584-6602  
 professional taxi services  
 Tel. 588-0035

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 Mondays 6-7pm  
 Sabana Liber 8 in Noord  
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# Sudoku



SOLUTION

8	9	2	7	2	1	8	6	9
1	9	2	6	8	8	2	7	9
8	6	7	2	9	9	2	8	1
7	8	6	8	1	2	9	9	2
9	2	8	9	7	8	1	2	6
2	1	9	9	6	2	7	8	8
9	8	8	1	9	7	6	2	2
2	7	9	2	8	6	9	1	8
6	2	1	8	2	9	8	9	7

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
 A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
 In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9





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## Finance

### Bolivia, Japan sign agreement on lithium research



LA PAZ, Bolivia - An excavator piles up salt at the Uyuni Salt Flats in Bolivia, one of the biggest reserves of lithium in the world. Bolivia and Japan signed an agreement to help the Andean nation conduct research that will lead to the industrialization of its lithium wealth, the Bolivian firm said yesterday. Lithium is widely used in rechargeable batteries for laptops, mobile phones and electric cars -- and an estimated 70 percent of the world's known lithium reserves are in Bolivia.



NEW YORK CITY -- Dolls sit on a shelf during the grand opening of the Disney Store Times Square on November 9, 2010 in New York City. The two-level, 20,000 square foot store features a digital billboard 68 feet above Times Square and will be open 105 hours per week, 9 a.m. to midnight every day.



CHICAGO, Illinois -- Bimbo donut products are offered for sale at the Cermak Fresh Market grocery store in the Little Village neighborhood in Chicago, Illinois. Yesterday it was announced that Grupo Bimbo would purchase Sara Lee's North American Fresh Bakery business for \$959 million.

## Monetary policy of the Aruba Central Bank

ORANJESTAD -- During the meeting of its Monetary Policy Committee (MPC)2 of October 28, 2010, the Centrale Bank van Aruba (CBA) concluded that its current monetary policy stance remains appropriate. This means that the reserve requirement rate stays at 11 percent.

This decision is based on the currently available economic and financial information, which show, among others, that economic activities are projected to contract by 3.7

percent in real terms in 2010.

The level of the net foreign assets was stable at Afl. 1,585.2 million at the end of September 2010. The banking sector credit grew by 6.0 percent in the first nine months of 2010, due largely to purchases of government bonds by the commercial banks. Excluding purchases of government bonds, aggregate credit reached only a 0.8 percent growth in the first nine months of 2010, indicative of limited activity in the domestic credit

market. The 12-month average inflation rate is forecasted to reach 2.6 percent in 2010.

All in all, it can be concluded that the currently available information does not point to significant changes since last month's MPC meeting. Nevertheless, the CBA will continue to closely monitor the developments in the economic and monetary fundamentals. The next meeting of the MPC is scheduled for November 25, 2010.

## China orders banks to boost reserves

BEIJING, China (AFP) - China's central bank announced yesterday it would raise the amount of money that lenders must keep in reserve as official concerns persist over inflation and rising housing costs.

The People's Bank of China said in a one-line statement on its website that the reserve ratio would be raised by 50 basis points, effective next Tuesday. The hike is the fourth this year.

Chinese officials have signalled growing concern over rising inflation and a potential asset bubble in the property

market as the world's second-biggest economy continues its rapid growth.

The PBoC last month raised its benchmark one-year lending and deposit rates by 25 basis points each, the first interest rate hike in nearly three years.

The decision on the ratio comes after Beijing raised concerns over the US Federal Reserve move to inject 600 billion dollars into the American economy, fearing it could stoke speculative "hot" money flows into China and fuel inflation.

Figures released yesterday also showed that China's trade surplus grew in October as both exports and imports rose year-on-year, adding to pressure on Beijing ahead of the G20 summit to let its currency appreciate.

The central bank in October reportedly ordered six banks, including the four major state-owned lenders, to increase the reserve requirement ratio by 50 basis points to 17.5 percent for two months.

The bank gave no further information in its announcement yesterday.

## UN: World tourism returns to pre-crisis levels

MADRID, Spain (AFP) - World tourism has returned to levels last seen before the global financial meltdown in late 2008, with the Asia-Pacific region leading the way, the UN World Tourism Organisation said yesterday.

"As on previous occasions, such as after the 9/11 attacks in 2001 and the 2003 SARS outbreak, tourism has again confirmed a strong capacity for recovery," the Madrid-based body said.

Tourist arrivals from January to August totalled 642 million, some 40 million more than during the same period in 2009 and one million more than in the last "pre-crisis" year of 2008, which saw record numbers, it said.

"International tourism continues to recover from the decline of 4.2 percent suffered last year under the impact of

the economic crisis," it added.

It projected an increase of 5.0-6.0 percent over the full year and of around 4.0 percent in 2011.

Emerging country destinations continued to lead the way while Europe recovered at a slower pace, the UNWTO said.

"Although recovery is still lagging in parts of Europe and the Americas, many destinations are already showing real growth and setting new records."

The Asia-Pacific region in particular has "shown resilience and a strong capacity for recovery."

The organisation also noted strong growth in the Middle East, up 16 percent, and in Africa, up 9.0 percent, helped by the soccer World Cup hosted by South Africa.

"These results reinforce the

message that we have been underscoring since the outbreak of the global crisis at the end of 2008 -- that tourism is one of the most dynamic economic sectors and a key driver in creating much needed growth and employment," UNWTO Secretary-General Taleb Rifai said.

### YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

ELAS	PASS	BOAT	STEM
RILL	EDIE	AUTO	TARO
ASIA	TENNESSEE	ARLO	
STANCES	ADIT	DARTED	
TAR	STES	CAME	
MITER	PEON	BANISTER	
USED	DEER	DOLCE	EVE
MER	POND	PERLE	PLEA
SERMONS	MANIS	BLEND	
AONE	SORTS	COOP	
HAPPY	MARIS	BROTHER	
ERIE	SALES	SLOT	ONO
LEN	STRAY	STOW	SNOB
MASTERED	SEAT	THESE	
ALES	HOLY	SRO	
STABLE	GENE	SWAPPED	
TALL	TELESCOPE	PAPA	
ALIE	EGAD	TROD	EVER
BETS	RODS	SATE	REEK



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The apartments are conveniently located less than one mile from Aruba's most beautiful beaches, like Manchebo Beach and Eagle Beach; near to the hotels and fantastic restaurants.

Quality Apartments is also located only 1 mile from Aruba's greatest casinos, four large supermarkets, bank, car rentals, motorcycle rentals, excellent nightclubs and bowling club.

It has 43 comfortable studio-apartments (max. 3 persons) and 17 luxurious apartments (max. 4 persons) with a loft.

These fabulous loft apartments are more spacious, with the sleeping area upstairs on the loft. All apartments are completely furnished with cable TV. The open kitchen is very spacious and equipped with stove top, refrigerator, toaster/oven and coffee maker (microwave optional). The apartments are air-conditioned, with daily maid service, private parking and a mini market.

The laundry is accessible to all guests 24 hours a day. There is a large fresh water swimming pool, with a pool deck and beach chairs, where you can relax any time of the day. At the reception, the friendly staff is always ready to attend you with a smile.

Quality Apartments is situated at the Schotlandstraat 70 in Oranjestad. For reservations or information readers may call at tel: (297)-582-0697 or (297)-583-7484, Fax: (297)-583-5203. Office hours are Monday thru Friday: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

E-mail: [quality@setarnet.aw](mailto:quality@setarnet.aw), Website: <http://arubaqualityapartments.com>

## Linda's Pancakes and Pizza place, delicious meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner



### Plain Pancake

Linda's Pancake and Pizza place, located at Palm Beach 6D, Noord (on the right side of Valero gas station) offers patrons the most delicious Dutch pancakes and pizza's with a Dutch twist.

Open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and only five minutes away from the high-rise resorts, Linda's is the perfect eatery for the whole family.

Seeing the popularity of this quaint small eatery, THE MORNING NEWS decided it

is just mmm... good. The saté... out of this world!"

Besides the original plain pancake, Linda's specialty is pancakes with walnuts, Brie and honey; pancakes with banana and mango or a Dutch favorite: pancake with apple and bacon.

All their pizzas are made with Dutch Gouda cheese and different toppings making it richer in taste.

When it comes to saté, one has to say that the secret is in



### Olgita, Ilhan and Iyanla enjoying a scrumptious meal

was time to find out just how good Linda's really is, by sending out a team of taste testers.

Olgita, joined by her two kids ordered a little of everything while the kids roamed around freely, enjoying the afternoon.

The meal started out with Linda's original plain – to die for – Dutch pancakes, followed by pizza, where instead of using mozzarella Linda has created a unique twist to the traditional Italian dish by using Dutch Gouda cheese. Adding a local favorite which could not stay off the table they also sampled the delicious saté (chicken, pork or beef on a wooden skewer) with peanut sauce (Indonesian influence on local food). For the finish the team (adults only) had one cup of Linda's delicious Espresso.

The team had this to say: "Superb! There are no words to describe just how delicious the pancakes are and the pizza

the sauce. Not everybody can make that perfect peanut sauce, but Linda, being an expert in the kitchen has cooked up one of the finest peanut sauces on the island, making this original Indonesian dish extra special.

If you want a specially prepared pancake or pizza, Linda is right there -- just for you -- in her kitchen.

"For those who are allergic to gluten I have a special pancake mix, gluten free," Linda stated to THE MORNING NEWS team.

Linda's Pancakes and Pizza also offers fried eggs and homemade soups.

"We also serve American coffee," Linda concluded.

With a complete menu, filled with delicious pancakes, pizzas and more, Linda's pancake and Pizza place is the perfect casual restaurant for all in the family.

For more information contact Linda's at 586-3378.

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## Michael Jackson single goes online, but is it him?



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - The first single from a posthumous Michael Jackson album was released online Monday - but was immediately clouded by questions over whether it was really the late star's voice.

Record label Epic Records was forced to issue a statement saying it was confident the album including the single, "Breaking News" was indeed Jackson singing, after fans and La Toya Jackson questioned its authenticity.

"We have complete confidence in the results of our extensive research as well as the accounts of those who were in the studio with Michael that the vocals on the new album are his own," said Epic, in a statement cited by James Bates, spokesman for Jackson's estate.

The statement came as some fans voiced doubts in online forums over whether the vocals were really recorded by Jackson, who reportedly recorded them in 2007, two years before his death last year at the age of 50.

"NOT michael. sony must think we are fools," wrote Besu on the Entertainment Weekly website, referring to Epic Records' parent company.

Jackson's sister LaToya also voiced doubt, telling the TMZ celebrity website: "I listened to it... It doesn't sound like him."

The four-minute single, the first from an album entitled "Michael" due to be released next month, went online on the star's website Monday, and is due to remain live for a week.

The song, set against a still image of television screens showing BREAKING NEWS straplines and images of Jackson, starts with snippets of news reports about the King of Pop's life and death, before opening into a thumping robotic beat.

The vocals sound like Jackson, even if the subject matter -- singing about himself, in the third person -- is

somewhat strange.

The cover of the new album, to be released December 14, shows images of the eccentric singer at various stages of his career, dominated by one of him being crowned by cherubs with a biblical-looking star in the background.

## Vaccines for flu season 2010/2011 have arrived

### What is the flu?

The flu is a contagious infection of the nose, throat, and lungs caused by the influenza virus.

Less often, it is spread when you touch a surface such as a faucet handle or phone that has the virus on it, and then touch your own mouth, nose, or eyes.

Because the flu spreads through the air and is very contagious, it often strikes a community all at once, causing an epidemic illness.

The flu usually begins abruptly, with a fever between 102 and 106 °F. (An adult typically has a lower fever than a child.) The fever usually lasts for a day or two, but can last 5 days.

These symptoms (except the cough) usually disappear within 4 - 7 days, but the tiredness persists for 1-2 weeks.

### How to combat the flu?

Vaccination is the best protection against contracting the flu.

Everyone 6 months of age and older should get vaccinated against the flu.

Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines (pills, liquid or an inhaler) that can be used for prevention or

### 'Twilight' filming sparks protests by Rio locals

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Filming of the final installment of the "Twilight" vampires-and-werewolves movies in Rio de Janeiro has sparked protests by locals fed up with the inconvenience, media reported this week.

Some residents in the central Lapa district where scenes from "Twilight 4: Breaking Dawn" are being filmed set fire to a crew's portable toilet Sunday and demonstrated over not being able to easily access their homes.

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treatment of flu viruses.

If you get sick, antiviral drugs can make your illness milder and make you feel better faster.

The antiviral drugs work only as a prevention, if you are sick already, it will now cure your flu.

### Flu is not the cold

Commonly, when someone is not feeling good, people have the tendency to say that he has the flu, but not every "flu" is caused by the flu virus.

Cold, stomach flu and other kinds of malaise are caused by different other viruses that cannot be prevented by taking the flu vaccination.

### A different type of flu every year.

In countries with winter seasons, every year there is a high percentage of people getting the flu.

Our island is frequented by tourists who bring over the flu and expose our community to the virus.

The flu virus evolves rapidly and new strains quickly replace the older ones, this is why everyone must vaccinate against the flu every year.

### Does Vaccination against the flu help increase resistance?

There are different strains of the flu worldwide that are being investigated, anticipating which one will strike the

present year.

Based on that information a vaccine is then made every year.

Each seasonal flu vaccine contains three dead flu viruses.

When injected with the vaccine the body reacts to these viruses by producing anti bodies.

When the flu virus attacks the body, these antibodies will counteract and eliminate the virus.

The vaccine cannot cause the flu as it consists of dead viruses.

It takes 1-2 weeks for the body to create anti bodies; in those 2 weeks time a person can get the flu.

### Does the flu vaccine help prevent the flu?

Yes, the flu vaccine is for 89% effective.

The 11% combats the flu if a person already has it by diminishing the symptoms.

The vaccine also minimizes the possibilities for complications caused by the flu.

Remember, the vaccine does not prevent the cold or other kind of viruses.

The effectiveness of the vaccine is clinically proven

### Is the flu vaccine safe?

Yes, it is safe, because it consists of dead viruses that induce the human body to produce anti bodies against the flu.

The vaccine is rather well tolerated; mostly it causes a little discomfort on the skin when injected.

This discomfort will disappear within 24 hours.

### Who are at risk for the flu?

Everyone can get the flu, although there are certain people who are at higher risk if they get the flu; it is advisable for them to take the vaccine. They are: heart patients, patients with lung problems (like asthma, bronchitis, etc.) diabetics, patients with kidney problems and persons with a low immunity system.

They must consult their doctor about taking the flu vaccine.

### When is person not at risk for the flu?

If a person is not a heart patient, has problems with lung or kidney, or has a low immunity system, there is no need for a flu vaccine.

It is advisable though to take the vaccine, if, for example, a person is 65 years old, cannot miss work for a week, or is constantly in contact with many people, then, it is advisable to consult with your house doctor.

### Can children be vaccinated against the flu?

Yes, all children older than 6 months can be vaccinated against the flu. But check first with a pediatrician.

In the U.S.A., authorities advice everyone who is at risk, to take the vaccine as soon as possible.

In the Netherlands, the house doctors automatically call all patients older than 65 years to get a vaccine.

In the Netherlands only, an average of 2,000 people die every year of the flu, while 20 to 30,000 are hospitalized.

On Aruba, the flu vaccine is available, through a doctor's prescription, at all drug-stores.



# Champion Djokovic makes winning Paris return



Djokovic in action

PARIS (AFP) - Serbia's Novak Djokovic began the defence of his ATP Paris Masters title with a straightforward 6-4, 6-3 defeat of Argentina's Juan Monaco in the second round here on Wednesday.

The second seed, defending the title he won against Gael Monfils last year, will face either big-serving American 16th seed John Isner or France's Michael Llodra for a place in the quarter-finals.

Djokovic, who received a first-round bye, found himself a break down early on, but fought back to level and then broke to love in the 10th game to take the first set, converting set point with a strong backhand return.

The Serbian saw off break points in his opening two service games of the second set and then broke for a 4-2 lead when Monaco double-faulted, before clinching victory when his opponent swatted a backhand return long.

"He was taking the balls early and being aggressive, and he was the better player at the start of the match," said Djokovic, who lost to Roger Federer in the Basel final on Sunday.

"I was lucky to get the break. When I did that I regained confidence and control of the match, and felt better on the court."

Eighth seed Andy Roddick swept into the third round with a comprehensive 6-1, 6-4 defeat of Finland's Jarkko Nieminen.

Roddick will now face Latvian Ernests Gulbis, who has reached round three after first-round opponent Juan Ignacio Chela and then Russian ninth seed Mikhail Youzhny both withdrew from

their matches against him through injury.

Croatian 13th seed Marin Cilic came through 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 against Ukrainian Sergiy Stakhovsky to set up a meeting with either British third seed Andy Murray or 2007 champion David Nalbandian of Argentina.

Top seed Federer takes on home favourite Richard Gasquet in the evening session, with Gasquet's fellow Frenchman Gilles Simon also in action against Swedish fourth seed Robin Soderling.

## Uncertainty as Aussies struggle to win back Ashes

SYDNEY (AFP) - The swagger has gone from Australian cricket replaced by uncertainty as to whether Ricky Ponting's jittery team can win back the Ashes from England in this summer's five-Test series.

Australia lost the traditional urn in last year's series in England with Ponting earning the dubious distinction of becoming the only Australian captain in 119 years to lose two Ashes series in England.

Once-mighty Australian cricket is in an indecisive state of flux and in painful

transition after the keenly-felt retirements of Shane Warne, Glenn McGrath, Adam Gilchrist, Matthew Hayden and Justin Langer over the last three years.

Warne and McGrath were among the all-time top four bowlers with a total of 1,271 wickets between them and Gilchrist remains the greatest wicketkeeper-batsman of all time with 17 centuries with his batting pyrotechnics down the order.

Ponting has been likened to inheriting the family business on the slide as Australia finds itself below England at an unaccustomed fifth on the ICC Test rankings and sliding to seven straight international defeats in all forms of the game.

Even the fans are gloomy about the Australian team's chances with almost 57 per cent of 6,000 polled in a newspaper this week believing Ponting's team will not retrieve the Ashes from England.

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## Haye in for battering says Harrison



David Haye (L), Audley Harrison

LONDON (AFP) - Audley Harrison has warned David Haye to expect a long and painful fight when the Britons clash for the world heavyweight title on Saturday.

Weeks of bad-mouthing will finally end when the two Britons face each other for Haye's World Boxing Association (WBA) heavyweight title in front of 20,000 fans at the MEN Arena in Manchester.

It is the biggest heavyweight fight in Britain since Lennox Lewis stopped Frank Bruno for the World Boxing Council (WBC) title in 1993 and the animosity between the Londoners has helped stoke up interest in the fight in the UK.

Haye, 30, and Harrison, 39, were once friends and have even sparred together but at a news conference on Wednesday they continued their bickering.

As always, Harrison talked a good fight.

The 2000 Olympic gold medallist, who has been criticised throughout an unfulfilled professional career that has seen him suffer four defeats, insists the fight will be close and cannot envisage himself getting stopped.

"The Audley Harrison that turned up to the Olympics (2000) and brought home the gold medal and then beat Richel Hersisia (2004) and Danny Williams (2006) is the one who will turn up."

"I have fallen but never given up in my career and Saturday will be mission complete: Audley Harrison will be the new heavyweight champion of the world."

"I know he's trained well and is 100 per cent and I'm going to have to be at my best to beat him. But the real Audley Harrison is going to turn up and I'll destroy him. It's my destiny."

Haye, who won world titles at cruiserweight before stepping up to heavyweight, shrugged off Harrison's claims and welcomed the prospect of the challenger being in peak condition for their grudge match.

"He was losing the fight against Michael Sprott when he pulled it out, but other than that where was this unbreakable spirit he talks about when he lost to Martin Rogan?" Haye said.

"He has acquired it somewhere running up the mountains in California for this fight maybe. I know what Audley is all about."

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## Kaymer has eyes set on winning Race to Dubai



SINGAPORE (AFP) - US PGA champion Martin Kaymer said Wednesday he was determined to hang onto his lead in the Race to Dubai and win his first ever Order of Merit on the European Tour.

But the German knows it will be a tight race to the sea-

son-ending Dubai World Championship, with US Open champion Graeme McDowell leading the chase to close the gap on him.

"My first priority at the start of the year was to win the Race to Dubai as I was not expecting to win a Major. Seriously," Kaymer told reporters in Singapore.

"I had the belief from last year that I could do it."

Kaymer, who will be playing in this week's Singapore Open, sees the tournament as an important step to extending his lead over second-placed McDowell in the Race to Dubai.

"For me, it is a very important tournament in the Race to Dubai," he said.

"I am a good iron player and if I can drop a few putts this week, more than the last couple of weeks, I think I have a chance."

The German leads the Race to Dubai with prize money of 3.21 million euros, while McDowell has so far earned almost 2.7 million euros this season.

"This is what golf is all about, to have the challenge to play against the best players in the world and he is obviously one of the them," said the 25-year-old Kaymer.

He also rates newly crowned world number one Lee Westwood as a strong challenger in the battle for the Order of Merit although the Englishman is skipping the Singapore tournament.

"I don't think we should forget Lee Westwood," he said.

"He still has a chance because it is a big prize fund in Dubai and anything can happen there."

"It sounds so simple but I can only take care of my own game."

## Jazz edge Heat in OT despite heroics from James, Wade

MIAMI (AFP) - Paul Millsap scored a career-high 46 points, including a rebound basket to force over-time, and the Utah Jazz edged Miami 116-114 on Tuesday despite stellar showings from Dwyane Wade and LeBron James.

The Jazz rallied from a 22-point deficit and pulled level at 104-104 on Millsap's basket at the final buzzer of the fourth quarter. Utah claimed the victory on two free throws by Francisco Elson with 0.4 of a second remaining.

"It's speechless, to be

down like that to a team like this and to come out with a

Wade scored 39 points and James produced his 29th career triple double - double-digit totals in three categories - with 20 points, 14 assists and 11 rebounds, but the Heat still suffered their first home loss of the season.

James produced the first triple-double for the Heat since Shaquille O'Neal in 2006 and his seventh in a losing cause, a defeat he credited in large part to the skills of Utah's Jerry Sloan, the longest-tenured active NBA coach.

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## Cashman meeting with Lee

The Yankees have identified Cliff Lee as their top priority entering this offseason, and this week, Brian Cashman will have his chance to tell the pitcher face to face.

Cashman was scheduled to fly to Arkansas to meet with the free-agent left-hander and his representative, Darek Braunecker.

The Yankees reached out to Lee almost immediately on Sunday, minutes after they were permitted to speak with him, as a way of demonstrating that the 32-year-old will be a top target this winter.

While the Yankees may not immediately slide a fi-

nancial offer across the table to Lee, the discussions of dollars historically have quickly followed Cashman's in-person visits.

In December 2008, Cashman ducked out of the Winter Meetings in Las Vegas and flew to the California home of CC Sabathia, who soon signed a seven-year, \$161 million pact with the Yankees.

Several reports have indicated that Lee could be seeking a five- or six-year agreement, with an annual value approaching or exceeding the \$23 million per season the Yankees are paying Sabathia.

## For promoting women's participation in sports COA nominates Jacky Ponson-van Putten for IOC recognition

Recently, the COA (Aruba Olympic Committee) presented Jacky Ponson-van Putten's nomination to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for her excellent job done during the years, promoting the participation of women in sports.

Every year on March 8 - International Day of Women, IOC presents six trophies (one for each continent, and one of world recognition) to an organization, lady or gen-

tleman as recognition for their extraordinary work in promoting women in sports. Every national Olympic committee can submit its candidate for this important distinction.

The Aruba Olympic Committee also received an invitation and sent it to all its members, for them to look among them who may qualify for the nomination.

This year, for the first time the committee received two propositions, Mrs. Rita Lopez-Henriquez and Mrs. Jackie Ponson-van Putten. Both Mrs. Lopez-Henriquez and Mrs. Ponson-van Putten are very active in sports, especially in women's sport. After deep evaluations, the board of the Aruba Olympic Committee decided to nominate Mrs. Ponson-van Putten for this recognition.

The board has already sent the necessary papers in order to comply with the last day of registration. Now the deci-



**Jacky Ponson-van Putten**  
sion lay in the hands of the Women's Sports Committee of the IOC (International Olympic Committee), which will be announced on March 8, 2011.

The beauty of this prize is that all candidates receive a certificate in recognition for their good job, while the winners receive a trophy.

## Resurgent New Zealand ready for India Test

HYDERABAD (AFP) - Injury-ravaged New Zealand will hope for another inspired performance in the second Test against India starting on Friday, after giving a scare to the hosts in the opening tie.

The Kiwis had top-ranked India on the mat in the second innings, reducing them to 15 runs for five wickets before a maiden Test century by tailender Harbhajan Singh eight in world rankings, hoped for a sporting wicket in Hyderabad, which will be hosting its first Test on a new ground.

"On the fifth day, you want a couple of guys to have short, sharp spells and just keep attacking," he said. "Unfortunately, the nature of Ahmedabad wicket and our limited resources didn't allow us to.

"I'd have loved to see us with five bowlers. Bennett in short sharp spells, and Ryder would have been a bit of a handful. It would have meant that Jeetan (Patel) and I could have attacked more as opposed to just bowling and bowling. "Whenever you

come to India, your concern is taking 20 wickets. We've done it once and we have got to improve on that."

India will be expecting Gautam Gambhir to hit form after a string of low scores this year. The left-hander has aggregated just 86 runs in his last 10 innings.

Record-breaking Sachin Tendulkar will look to score his 50th Test ton, having missed the chance to register the feat in Ahmedabad where he scored 40 and 12 in the two innings.

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